## May Day:

- \* Viet Nam Working Class in the Van of Anti-Imperialist Struggle. Page 4
- \* The Vanguard Banner in the Revolutionary Storm. Page 6

VIETVA PEIVED April 29 No 162

Information Weekly ... E.O. : 46 Tran Hung Dao Street, Nanot ...

On the Choice of a Site for D.R.V.N.-U.S. Preliminary Contacts U.S. DIPLOMACY

SOUTH VIET NAM

Southwest of HUE: 34 Choppers Downed in One Day.

KHE SANH Sector: Nearly 1,000 G.I.'s Killed or Wounded in One Week

SAIGON Area: One Puppet Battalion and 2 Companies Wiped Out. 100 G.I.'s Killed or Wounded.

Page 8

NORTH VIET NAM

9 U.S. Planes Downed in 2 Consecutive Days Including the Third F.111-A.

Page 2

## ILS OBDURATELY STEPS UP WAR OF DESTRUCTION IN NORTH VIFT NAM AND COMMITS CRIMES IN THE SOUTH

 $W^{{\scriptscriptstyle{HILE}}}$ deliherately W putting forward pre-posterous conditions to delay preliminary contacts with the D.R.V.N., for 6 days running from April 15 to 20, the U.S. government launched against the D.R.V.N. air raids three times fiercer than breviously previously.

On April 15, U.S. planes dropped a dozen bombs on a village in Thach Ha district, Ha Tinh province, causing many casualties among the

On April 16, 40 U.S. bombs were released on two localities in Quang Binh and Nghe An provinces. The same day U.S. war Ships shelled a coastal village in Vinh Linh area, inflicting on the people great losses in lives and property.

The following days, U.S. air raids were stepped up. On April 18, a populated area 154m south of Thanh thou foum was saugely attacked but the U.S. claimed no raids had been flown above the 15th parallel. On April

about 600 bombs were dropped on 40 localities in nearly all the districts of Ha Tinh province, savagely Tinh province, savag killing many local people. savagely

Furthermore, on these days, U.S. planes were very active in the provinces of Ha Bac, Nam Ha, Vinh Phuc, Hoa Binh, Bac Thai, Ha Tay, Quang Ninh, Thanh Hoa, Thai Binh, Yen Bai, Hanoi and Hai Phong.

USIS admitted that on April 18, U.S. planes had made 145 sorties over North Viet Nam. AFP and Reuter confirmed that this was the highest number of air sorties recorded in one day since the beginning of 1968.

Parallel with the stepping up of the war of destruction against North Viet Nam, U.S. troops have committed many crimes in the South.

On April 14, a war ship of the 7th Fleet attacked U Minh jungle, Ca Mau prov-ince, with shells and rockets, causing 80 big fires, some

## SLIGHTS RESPECT FOR COMMITMENTS ESCALATION IN SUG-

OUR weeks have elapsed since the D.R.V.N. Government declared its readjness for preliminary contacts with the U.S. Government and suggested two meeting places. These for weeks were, alsa, wasted by the presence of the pres

som paine on the conditions site the choice of such a much on "yeompt talks."

They who have insisted so much on "yeompt talks."

They who have insisted so much on "yeompt talks."

It have been and where the talks will take cleared that "if they only let me know when and where the talks will take where the talks will take only a room and a table" and the U.S. president will have his associates at most trusted to the control of the talks will take the talks will take the talks will be talked to the talks with the talks will be talked to the talk talks will be talked talked talks will be talked hours," now come out with two, then four terms for the choice of the site.

the choice of the site.

Here are, first of all, these two prerequisites: the country where the contacts will take place must be a must be country, and there must be country, and there must be contact, and "the four things which you have to have"; good communication have "good communication have "good communication psychological solidation of the side; access for news coverage; and a place where the Suigen puppers and other the Suigen puppers and the suigen puppers tuen representation of the condition of the latter condition—which seems to boil down rather to a point of procedure for the official talks between the D.R.V.N. and the United States—, the U.S. Government has committed right now a crude provocation against the Vietnamese GESTIONS FOR A SITE

Democratic Republic of Viet Nam

LL these conditions have A thus put an end to the old refrain: "the the old refrain: "the U.S. is ready to go anywhere at any time" to achieve peace. This "Bible of Negotiations," as was called by UPI on April 12, must as of now disappear from the American propaganda arsenal.

In its place, there has ap-peared another theme of U.S. peared another theme of U.S. propaganda: the Americans' generosity in the offer of possible sites for the pre-liminary contacts. At first, immary contacts. At first, they suggested five places, now they have added ten. A real escalation! Look, they said, the United States and the D. R. V. N. may be partial in the choice of the site, so we have invited third countries to made proposals and these ten new names include suggestions which are

theirs.

A threadbare ploy! It tends to put on the same footing the views of the victim of aggression that the D.R.V.N. is and those of the aggressor that the American imperialists are. It also aimed at enlisting the sympathy of certain countries and comforting others. What is indigrous certain countries and comfort-ing others. What is ludicrous in it is that the great majority of the names suggested do not meet even the four not meet even the four criteria of the United States.

criteria of the United States.
This galore of names proposed by the U.S. has but called back to mind another American stunt: on one fine day of 1967 the services of Mr. Johnson listed as many as "25 peace efforts" of the U.S. A few day later 28, then 41 "efforts." However,

(Continued page 2)

Latest News

There has been no clearer evi-dence of the U.S. government's obduracy and bellicosity.

of them gutting an area 20km each side, and lasting for many days, fon April 18, many days, for the last and petrol on this jungle, to stir up the flames and protests on the last and rockets on without that implications without that implications many duelling houses and eraft and causing losses in lites and properly to the population.

# P.L.A.F. COMMAND'S 5th SPECIAL COMMUNIQUE

N 75 days the people's and revolutionary forces upset the enemy's battle array, inflicted heavy losses on him and driven him onto the path to inescapable defeat;

- . 200,000 KILLED, WOUNDED OR CAPTURED (INCLUDING 60,000 U.S. AND FOREIGN MERCENARIES).
- . 3 ARMOURED REGIMENTS, A GROUP OF PARA BATTALIONS, BATTALIONS, 270 COMPANIES, 10 ARMOURED SQUADRONS WIPED OUT OR DEPLETED.
- 2.500 AIRCRAFT, 2,380 TANKS AND ARMOURED VEHICLES, 330 SHIPS AND MILITARY CRAFT, 346 GUNS DESTROYED OR PUT OUT OF ACTION. . SEVERAL HUNDRED THOUSAND PUPPET TROOPS HAVE DEFECTED AND LARGE AREAS LIBERATED.

# Hanoi Dress Opinion

LENIN'S TEACHINGS WILL ALWAYS LIGHT OUR PATH

T a time when the Vietnamese revolution is on the offensive and winning big victories, the 98th birth anniversary of V. I. Lenin impels us, the communists, working class and toiling people of Viet Nam, forward towards greater successes.

Nearly half a century ago, Lenin's thesis on the problem of nationalities and the colonies was the shining truth blazing the trail for comrade Ho Chi Minh, our respected and beloved leader, to overcome all difficulties and obstacles and to bring his national salvation mission to fruition. Since then, and especially since the founding of our Party, the banner of Marxism-Leninism has been held higher along our path of struggle. In the less than forty years that have passed, all the successes of the Vietnamesee revolution can be attributed first and foremost to our faithfulness to Marxism-Leninism and the correct application of this doctrine to the concrete sifuation of Viet Nam. For all these achievements, the Vietnamese patriots and revolutionaries cannot but feet grateful when thinking of the far - reaching and lofty significance of the first steps which led the great Vietnamese

(People's Daily) April 22, 1968

### PAK JUNG HI CLIQUE HAVE A MORE AND MORE ACTIVE HAND IN U.S. CRIMES

OHNSON-Pak Jung Hi meeting in Honolulu was in the first place a criminal get-together between the U.S. imperialists and their lackeys against the Korean people and the People's Democratic Republic of Korea. This meeting was aimed at boosting the morale of U.S. lackeys in South Korea in face of the ever-growing struggle of the people. It also discussed a new U.S. military aid program for Pak Jung Hi to step up repression against the South Korean people and speed up war preparations against the P.D.R. of Korea,

Johnson-Pak Jung Hi meeting was held in the same place and immediately after Johnson and his generals had approved measures to intensify their war of aggression in South Viet Nam. Johnson required from his Korean puppet another division of South Korean troops to South Viet Nam to help carry out this program.

Pak Jung Hi was pleased with Johnson's announcement of the limited bombing of North Viet Nam meant to

'induce" Hanoi to start negotiations. But what is behind Johnson's move? Sheer bad faith and a deliberate scheme to postpone the preliminary contacts between representatives of the D.R.V.N. and the U.S.

> Nhan Dan April 20, 1968

### ACTION OF WESTERN GERMAN YOUTH AND STUDENTS

SINCE April 11, 1968, a campaign of unprecedented size has started in West Berlin and has been rapidly spreading to 30 West German cities against the West German reactionaries who attempted the life of Rudi Dutschker, a students' leader in West Berlin.

In this campaign, the West German youths and students also staged many demonstrations against U.S. aggression in Viet Nam and the West German authorities who lent the Yankees a helping hand.

... These powerful actions have dealt a heavy blow at the Kiesinger reactionary clique and their bosses, the U.S. imperialists. From Japan, South Korea, West Germany to the U.S., the progressive forces who fight U.S. imperialism and its lackeys have been expanding and stepping up their struggle.

> Quan Doi Nhan Dan (People's Army)

North Wiet Nam

## 9 U.S. PLANES DOWNED IN 2 CONSECUTIVE DAYS INCLUDING THE THIRD F. 111-A

FROM April 18 to 27, A.A. defence of the D.R.V.N. downed 24 jets including 13 in Quang Binh prov-ince, 2 over Hai Phong and 1 over

On April 21 the U.S. Air Porce lost 5 planes including a F.111-A fighter-bomber downed over Quang Binh. It is the third of this kind of variable geometry plane bagged by our air

April 21 and 22 were the most glorious days of Quang Binh province. On the 21st, 3 U.S. aircraft were downed

including the above mentioned F.111-A. The following day, 2 others were grounded including a F. 4 Phantom knocked out of the sky by a unit of young militia women who, 17 days ago, had scored a kill.

Meanwhile, our coastal defence set they could do any harm.

Since February 28, 1967, date of the first naval bombardment of the D.R.V.N. by the U.S., it is the 71st time that these coreairs have received due

Up to Apr. 27, 2,871 U.S. planes were downed in North Viet Nam.

## U.S. DIPLOMACY SLIGHTS RESPECT FOR COMMITMENTS

(Continued from page 1)

a close look at these "efforts" will reveal that more than half of them consist of U.S. speeches and statements in which the U.S. has repeated again and again the "uncon-ditional discussions" and the "we - are - ready - to - go-any where - at - any-time" leit

#### UNIVERSAL ARRAIGNMENT

BY indulging in all these juggles of imperialist diplomacy, the Washington ruling circles strive to appease public opinion and shift on the D.R.V.N. the blame for the delay of the talks between the two sides talks between the two sides. However, it is the opposite effect which is achieved. In suggesting Phnom Penh and Warsaw as possible sites for the preliminary contacts, the D.R.V.N. has won the approval of very broad sections of public opinion, including American opinion. On April 16. congressions. On April 16, congressman Findley declared that the U.S. government's rejection of Warsaw is difficult to understand and can only make things more complicated. On April 17 Senator Fubright expressed his disappointment at President Johnson's failure to live up to his pledge to go anywhere at any time. "I see nothing wrong in going to Phnom Penh" he said.

On April 19, Senator Morton took the view that Phnom Penh was an excel-lent place. The same day, Senator Robert Kennedy de-Senator Robert Kennedy de-clared that when Mr. John-son promised to go anywhere this should not exclude Phnom Penh and Warsaw. And he added that the new conditions set by Mr. John-son are intolerable and serison are intolerable and seri-ously endanger the position of the United States, in America and the world as well. On April 23, it is the turn of Senators McCarthy and Stephen Young to cri-ticize the Johnson Adminis-tration for having turneddown Warsaw. As for the Western press, the British paper The Observer on April 21 noted that few people in Washing-

ton think that the new proposal of the Americans are realistic, but on the contrary dismiss them as

### pure propaganda. AWKWARD QUIBBLING

THE collaborators of Mr. Johnson, short of arguments, resorted to quib-to defend their boss. ments, resorted to quib-bles to defend their boss. Mr. Clifford on April 20 interpreted Mr. Johnson's "Bible of Negotiations" (to go anywhere) as meaning that he would go to any place that he considered "reasonable and proper."

Poor Mr. Clifford! Mr. Johnson's words are clear enough to allow no interpretation and the effort of Mr. Clifford looks every inch an endeavour to distort the human language.

We'd rather advise him to follow the example of that anonymous "official" of the State Department whose fol-State Department whose following words were reported by *UPI* on April 17: "I don't know why the President must be bound by his earlier statements." At least, that is fair play and falls in with the traditions of American diplomacy, a diplomacy which is wont not to live up to its commitments. Another case in point ments. Another case in point can be supplied by U.S. behaviour after the 1954 Geneva Conference in which Mr. Bedell Smith solemnly declared that the United States would not use force nor the threat of force to

### disturb the application of the agreements that had been reached upon. UNVEILED THREATS AND TRANSPARENT MANOFUVRES

N a true Texan manner, Mr. Johnson has shown a glimpse of his "big ck" policy, while dangling his peace carrot. In Honolulu, he declared: "It is now two long weeks since I restricted the bombing." On April 18, Dean Rusk chimed in: "It is time for a residue

and responsive answer from and responsive answer from Hanoi. The American people... have a right to expect such an answer promptly." And the Washington Star explained that by these words Mr. Rusk wanted to threaten Hanoi with a resumption of the full-scale bombing in case contacts will not start soon.

will not start soon.
It is clear that only a short
distance is between Mr. Johnson and Co and a Mendel
Rivers, a die-hard hawk, who
brandished the tactical actic
bomb to scare Hanoi to the
conference table. Fresh salve
rattling is already heard in
Washington and elsewhere,
Johnson-Pak Jung HI meeting
ended with a tent ended with a joint commu-nique in which both sides pledged themselves to main-tain their "resolve" in the

tain their "resolve in the military domain. In Saigon, the U.S. – pup-pet plan envisages the forcible conscription of 280,000 young men into the Thieu-Ky army men into the Thieu-Ky army. On April 18 alone, U.S. B52's dropped on the A Sau valley 1,500 tons of bombs, the record figure in all the U.S. war of aggression in South Viet Nam. In the meantime. the number of daily missions carried out by U.S. aircraft against North Viet Nam also reached a record high in the past six months. Barry Brown, an IPS columnist, remarked on April 12 that since Johnson made his March 31 speech
"it may seem that less has
been said in Washington
about an improvement in the propects for peace than about plans for continuing the war."

### IT IS UP TO Mr. JOHNSON

WASHINGTON'S propagan-da wanted to sow da wanted to sow con-fusion in others' minds by saying that the U.S. government is always waiting for an answer from Hanoi. No, it is rather the United States that must reply to the D.R.V.N. proposal concerning Phnom Penh and Warsaw. If the United States really wants talks with the D.R.V.N it must stop raising objec-tions in the choice of a place for preliminary contacts, which only delay the talks between the two sides.

## THE NORTH—GREAT REAR BASE OF THE SOUTH

OVER the past three years, the Health Service of the years, the Health Service of the D.R.V.N. has been laying D.R.V.N. has been laying stress on readjustment to war conditions. "To evactate" the health services from the cities to the countryside, disperse hospitals and dispensaries, raise labour efficiency by effecting the decentralisation of the service by relieving the pressure on upper echelons and strengthening of lower echelons, rely on one's own resources, enlist the people's contribution to the organization of the medica organization of the medico-sanitary network and serve production and fighting," such is the unwavering policy which has made it possible for our country to face the trial of war victoriously.

At grass-roots level, after At grass-roots level, after 3 years of war, 80 per cent of the agricultural co-ops already have each a sanitary group which looks after the health of the peasants, disseminates notions of prohylactic hygiene and, in case of bombing; gives first-aid care to the wounded: haemostasia, artificial res-piration, immobilization of fractures and bandage. That is the first line

is the first line.

All provinces of the former 4th Zone (from the 17th to the 20th parallel where fighting is the grimmers) and those in the delta and midland (former Tonking) each possess an infirmary-maternity where the wounded are seriated and light injuries treated. That is the second line. Some of these establishments performs

surgical operations usually done by district hospitals (3rd line): amputations, stomach operations, some chest, brain-skull and jawface operations.

face operations.

Each district has its own hospital. Number of district hospitals can do the work of provincial hospitals (4th line) which treat virtually all cases.

departments, among others an ear-nose-throat section, a dental room, a section for the treatment of maxillo-

facial diseases, a service for the welfare of mothers and children, an anti-malaria

At provincial level, the at provincial level, the medico-sanitary service assu-mes the over-all prophylactic and therapeutic work. Provin-cial hospitals form the 4th

cial hospitals form the 4th line. Apart from the dispen-saries of hygiene and combat against epidemics, the prov-inces possess anti-T.B. sana-toria and dispensaries against malaria, trachoma and lepro-sy and dispensaries for mothers and children. Schools

mothers and children. Schools for the training of medical attendants function in each province. The medical schools of Thanh Hoa and Thai Binh provinces and that of the Viet Bac Autonomous Region have begun training qualified medical workers. In 21 provinces, pharmaceutical work-

centre, etc ...

shops have begun production to meet the needs of the people. Since June 1965

**HEALTH SERVICE** 

aircraft have been making systematic attacks on the systematic attacks on the network of medical establish-ments in North Viet Nam. ments in Norm viet Nam.

127 of these establishments, among them 24 provincial hospitals and 9 dispensaries, have been subjected to heavy

## ing surgical operations, has been treated at district level. In 1967, in Thanh Hoa prov-In 1907, in Thanh Hoa prov-ince, provincial medical es-tablishments had to give attention to only 5 per cent of the wounded, the rest being looked after at district level (23 per cent) and village level (72 per cent).

Concerning ordinary thera-peutic work, according to sta-tistics established in 10 provinces, in 1967, the number of visits increased 38.45 per cent compared with 1964. At centrally-run hospitals, the increase was 12.32 per cent (between 1966 and 1967). In the number of in-patients IN WARTIME CONDITIONS and out-patients rose respec-tively by 18.24 per cent and 113 per cent between 1964 and 1967 and that of hospital beds by 27 per cent.

Prophylactic work has ob-tained substantial results. No epidemics of any size have bro-ken out. The rate of common endemic diseases has decreased year by year, as evidenced by the following statistics (per 100,000 inhabitants):

#### Poliomyelitis Diphtheria Typhoid fever 3.24 10.36 258.16 2.94 4.03 238.03 1068.61 Dysentery Diarrhoea

lines. The mortality rate among the wounded has dropped markedly at co-operative and village level: by 4 times in Thanh Hoa province and 7 times in a commune of Quang Binh province, close to the 17th parallel.

bombing. But, as is seen, far from being wiped out or brought to a standstill, the

health service of the D.R.V.N.

At present, most of the cases, including those requir-

has faced the trial of war victoriously and has grown up in the turmoil. From 50 to 70 per cent of the war wounded have been treated in the 1st and 2nd

> Mortality rate has been declining year by year. In Hanoi, for instance, it has gone down from 29.8% in 1962 to 25.9% in 1966 and to 24.22% in 1967. Finally, in the field of research work, 1,014 theses have been submitted, mostly concerning the treatment of war injuries and diseases.

IN BRIEF

 Despite the war, the out-put value of engineering goods of Hanoi city has increased many times over 1963 and 45 per cent over 1965. In the periphery of the city, irriga-tion work has made it possible to water 85 per cent of the area under crops. Rice yield reached over 5 tons per hectare per year (two crops).

· At the invitation of the Vietnamese Journalists' Asso-ciation, a delegation of the International Organization of Journalists led by Sepp Fis-cher, an East German journalist, deputy-secretary general of the I.O.J., and composed of delegates from the Soviet Union, Rumania and Mexico, has arrived in Hanoi for a friendship visit to the D.R.V.N. The delegation was received by Nguyen Duy Trinh, Vice - Premier and

• The documentary film Seventeenth Parallel produced in 1967 in Viet Nam by the well-known cameraman Joris Ivens and his associate Marce-line Loridan has been completed and shown in many countries. The film which praises the valiant struggle and creativeness of the Vietnamese people and exposes the aggression and barbarous ese people and exposes the aggression and barbarous crimes of U.S. imperialism, has been described by the French film critic, Michel Cap Denac, as a "poem of heroism and intelligence."

# VIET NAM. Country of Paradoxes

Since the stepping up of U.S. war of destruction in North Viet Nam chiefly since the last two years, many Viet of the control of the viet of viet herself many paradoxical things. The aggressors have perpetrated unheard-of crimes, but where the visitors expect a chaos, there reigns a perfect order, where they believe disorder to exist, there prevails an unruffled

calm.

An interpreter who escorted the guests in their visits to Hanoi and various provinces has jotted down the following impressions.— Ed.

### BISONIC JETS AND WHEELBARROWS

IN the sky, fly at various altitudes
—at least theoretically — F.1058,
and F.4Cs manned by stury
lads graduated from the Air Force
Academy. On the ground zigzags on a
bumpy road a wheelbarrow, rudimenoumpy road a wheelourrow, rulimen-tary vehicle driven by a rather shy slim young girl, which splits your eardrums with its creaking and hardly covers a kilometres an hour

A paradoxical sight indeed. But what is unexpected is that the slower vehicle carries the faster one, of course reduced to pieces. It is quite familiar to see in Viet Nam a downed plane

having its debris salvaged by militia-men and brought by available make-shifs means, this time, by a wheelbarrow. This was sighted once by W. Burchett who, delighted, has shot a short-length film of it.

### TWO CIVILIZATIONS FACE-TO-FACE

"Y OUR country is made of paradoxes" said to me Jean B. a French journalist. I understood him quite easily. We left Hanoi at nightfall and arrived at Thanh Hoa very late in the night after a rough trip during which our car bumped along crater-dotted roads and crossed bridges made of wooden plank and bamboo. "What, all the bridges have been bombed?" Jean B. asked me.

"As you can see," I replied.
"They have been destroyed more than
once. All these plank and bamboo
bridges have also been bombed. And each time they are destroyed our

In fact, since these last three years, all bridges and roads in North Viet Nam have been subjected to round-the-clock heavy bombings with "lazy dogs," 3,000-lb bombs, demolition bombs, and delayed-action bombs. comos, and aetayea action comos. But the Phantoms, Thunderchiefs and other lethal weapons bearing more or less devilish names, have failed to get the better of the plank and bamboo bridges.

Our guest remained lost in thought Our guest remained tost in thought in face of such a fascinating subject so "sensational" for Western readers. He saw in it the confrontation of two civilizations: the one, industrial and the other, "of bamboo." And he must the other, "of bamboo," And he must acknowledge the truth that it is not the former which prevails over the latter, but quite the reverse, for besides matériel there is the factor "man" and it is this one that works wonders.

### PLANES TURNED INTO HAIR COMBS, SPOONS, SAUCEPANS

URING his stay at Viet Tri, URING his stay at Viet Tri,
J.B.N., an American biologist, professor at Berkeley
University, received as a souvenil
duralumin hair comb. A trivial thing,
but which has a symbolic value for it
made from wreckages of American blanes.

planes:
"I am quite entitled to receive this gift," said J.B.N. "We, American tax payers, must against our will foot the bill for the Viet Nam war. And what has happened to these F.105; F.4Cs built with our money, I will show this comb to my fellow citiens for them to see the futility of our government's policy.

How many of his compatriots would be dumfounded and incensed against their government should they know all this unusual use of carcasses of U.S. planes downed in Viet Nam. For besides combs, there are spoons, forks, saucepans and even ploughshares, bicycle wheel rims, in short a great variety of articles of daily use made from that raw material supplied plen-tifully "by Johnson," as will say jokingly the Vietnamese artisans and farmers who are all more or less jacks.

WE made a short stop at Ninh

I made a short stop at Ninh Binh, in the small hours. The town was quite desert. Suddenly from a lane a slim figure was seen coming up slowly: a shrivelled old woman asked me the time in

AN ILLITERATE POFTESS

a timid voice.
"Two o'clock, Still too soon for "Two o'clock. Still too soon for you to be up, grand" mother!" I said to her. "I must go to market," said she. "They come here frequently?" I touched her to the quick and she

I touched her to the quich and she became suddenly talabite. "Oh, yes," she said, "the other day, our men downed a plane." She delighted in giving me detailed account of the last battle and went on, "Look, I was commended that time for porn! I declared to over lighters." Without any more alo, the recited the power of the property of the said all of us, Vietnametes. Our strange talk roused the curiosity of I fan B.

all of us, Vettametes, and of us, Vettametes, of the curronity of the composition "I said, or "I said, "Oh!" our host asked me, astonished. "I see a diterate woman." "She is reciting a poem of her own of the curron of the curr

# MAY 1st - INTERNATIONAL LABOUR

DAY

In the People's Service

ESPITE rains of U.S. bombs and BSPITE rains of U.S. bombs and machine gun bullets on our country in the South, as well as in the North, our working class and people observe the International Labour Day in an absolute confidence in the triumph of our just cause. On May Day this year, in the world as well as in Viet Nam, more than ever, it is clear that the forces of socialism and independence are prevailing over those of imperialism and the forces of

peace over those of war. In the world, during 82 years since the magnificient action of Chicago workers for the 8-hour working day, the revolutionary struggle of the world's working class has been marked by more and more extensive actions and bigger

The last decades have seen the hirth and growth of the socialist camp which is asserting itself as "the decisive factor in the development of human society."

decades to be the leading force in the whole country has been making a dis-tinguished contribution to the nation's drive for independence and freedom and to the fight of the world working class and people for peace, democracy and socialism.

Since 1930, led by its Leninist Party— formerly the Indo-Chinese Communist Party, now the Viet Nam Workers' Party—the Victnamese working class has constantly been in the frontline of the struggle. Since 1929, it has taken over struggie. Since 1929, it has taken over the banner of national independence from bourgeois and petty-bourgeois parties. Having as a close ally the peas-antry from which it was born and antry from which it was norm and with which it has maintained a close relationship, it has drawn other sections of the people into a fierce struggle against colonialism and its local hench-men: the landlords and reactionary compradore-capitalists. With the working class in the forefront, our people brought hold a hammer in one hand and a gun in another" is a struggle you must wage every day, every minute. To rejoin one's machine gun nest set up on the roof of a workshop or at the prow of a ship when enemy planes

the men in the water rouse and ren-tagon that, despite the bombs showered on the D.R.V.N., the economic and military potentials of the latter would continue to increase and the material and technical bases of socialism con-tinue to be established successfully. To these victories of great significance our working class makes a contribution one may expect from it, as the vanquard revolutionary force. To the vanquard revolutionary force, to up production in war conditions requires gigantic efforts, a lot of wits and a great sense of responsibility. To cling to your working, your ship, the steering wheel of your lory "when the both and are sense of responsibility." To cling to your working, your ship, the steering wheel of your lory "when the complete wheel of your lory" when the complete wheel of your lory "when the complete when the came when the came when the complete wheel of your lory" when the complete wheel of your lory "when the complete wheel of your lory" when the complete wheel of your lory "when the complete wheel of your lory" when the complete wheel of your lory "when the complete wheel of your lory" when the complete wheel of your lory "when the complete wheel of your lory" when the complete wheel of your lory "when the complete wheel of your lory" when the complete wheel of your lory "when the complete wheel of your lory" when the complete wheel of your lory "when the complete wheel of your lory" when the complete wheel of your lory "when the complete wheel of your lory" when the complete wheel of your lory "when the complete wheel of your lory" when the complete wheel of your lory "when the complete wheel of your lory" when the complete wheel of your lory "when the complete wheel of your lory" when the complete wheel of your lory "when the complete wheel of your lory" when the complete wheel of your lory "when the complete wheel of your lory" when the complete wheel of your lory when the complete wheel of your lory when the complete wheel on the your lory when the complete wheel of your lory when the came when the complete wheel of your lory when the complete wheel your li

For the first time in her life she stood by long pieces of ordnance. She had seen some before, wrapped in larpau-lin, from afar. She had looked at them with a keen interest, carefully, and dream of becoming a mechanic.

Gun-repairing had been until then a men's job. Aware of the girl's wishes, the leadership of the arsenal, however, decided to help her serve her apprenticeship. A course was specially prepared for her.

forgetting even to rest.

At the girl made quick headway, she was entreated with the orbaining of a beautificated with the orbaining of the compared of the compared of the compared of the configuration of the configuration of the component parts each day, the component parts each day, and took them one after another, trying to recognize each. In next to no time the succeeded in asternooling them together and

fitting up the box. After the second experiment she got the whole set-up on her tinger tibs.

So much so that one year of apprenticeship made her a good mechanic

One day Tuoi was told off to put in order a gun aboard a warship. What a surprise for the sailors to see her getting on the deck! Her heart beat wildly. on the access they have been withty. Overcoming her emotion she set to work and quickly found out what was wrong with the weapon. After an hour it was able to work again.

Since then, as a mechanic by trade she has been to many hattletields. Atter rebain has been to many battlefields. After repair-ing a piece of ordnance she never joget to say to the gunners, "Write to me whenever you've brought down an enemy aircraft."

Now Twoi has a thick file of letters. They came from all parts of the country, with appreciation of her contribution to the successes of our anti-aircraft defence.

## THE VANGUARD BANNER IN THE REVOLUTIONARY STORM

AY 1st, 1967. Braving the ban on demonstration ordered by the puppet administration and breaking through an over and breaking through an over 10,0000-strong riot police cordon, tens of thousands of workers and other labourers in Saigon, Cho Lon and Gia Dinh took to the streets. The demonstrators carried banners and placards with English slogans highlight-ing their insistent demands:

- Cut down the price of rice and

- Oppose the replacement of Viet-imese workers by foreign workers! - Food and clothing in stead of bombs and bullets!

- End indiscriminate bombing ! - Down with the police state!

- Foreigners (i.e. U.S.-Ed.) must respect Vietnamese sovereignty!

respect Victnames sovereignty!

An AP correspondent in Saigon admitted that the demonstration had "a distinctive anti-American and anti-government tone." Not only an Saigon, but also in all other and the source of the source o stration to protest against massacres of the people and denounce the use of napalm and toxic chemicals against masses of the people and crops.

The above-mentioned actions marked The above-mentioned actions marked a new step forward in the movement of the working class and labouring people in the urban areas of South Viet Nam. They voiced, in the context of an open and legal struggle, not only their definants for better livelihood but their defailmts for better livelihood but also their eager aspiration for peace, also their eager aspiration for peace, of South Viet Nam urban population of South Viet Nam urban population of the vinning position of the vinning position of the control of the vinning position of the acceptance to U.S. aggression and for national salvation, the heavy setbacks of the Saigon puper daministration touched off by the 1960 Winter-1067 Spring campaign of the patriotic forces.

N the past year since May 1st 1067 the

N the past year since May 1st, 1907 the large-scale struggle of the workers and labouring people in South VietNam urban areas has been gaining in strength and scope. Most remarkable were the activities of those in the key services in Saigon Cho Lon and Da Nang and in Saigon - Cao Lon and Da Nang and even in the military and supply bases of the U.S. The satisfaction by the puppet authorities and the American capitalist companies of the demands of 117 trade unions of the power and water supply corporation, the port, the communication and transport service and the oil supply service in Saigon (May 1967), the strike of 700 workers of Esso, an important oil distribution centre-10f the U.S. in Qui Nhon, which was supported by their colleagues at the Tan Son Nhat and Nha Be POL services in Saigon (August 1967), the strikes of dockers at the ports of Rach strikes of dockers at the ports of Rach Dua and Cape St Jacques (June 1967), of workers at the U.S. company "Equip-ment" in Thu Duc (September 1967), of 1,500 workers at the airfields of Tan Le, Plu Cat and Binh Dinh (Aug. 1967) and of workers and employees of the Pan American Airways (December 1967)... were vivid illustrations

In particular, the protracted walk-out of 45,000 Vietnamese workers in the various establishments of the RMKvarious establishments of the RMK-BRJ company has had a major effect since many of these establishments were under contract to build military instal-lations for the U.S. According to AP, within only 4 months, in the admission of the U.S. Embassy in Saigon, 53 disputes and strikes broke out in the mpany for better working conditi

and pay rises and against ill treatment and beating by U.S. troops and agents, the sacking of Vietnamese workers and their replacement by foreign workers.

INCE the start of the 1067 Winted 1068 Spring campaign, inspired by the victories of the particular of also took part in the armed and political also took part in the armed and political actions against the wanton shellings and bombings and enemy terrorist raids. Four villages in the Ben Cat rubber plantation, Thu Dau Mot province, have been awarded N.F.L. decorations for their achievements.

Meantime, in the towns and cities, especially in Saigon and Cho Lon, the workers and labouring people have organized and promoted their paramilitary activities in co-ordination with the economic and political struggle. They have formed "self-defence teams" to resist formed "self-defence teams" to resist radis and arrests and punish the enemy's cruel agents. UPI on December 20, 1907 confirmed many armed propagands actions of workers and other strata right in the centre of Ssigon. In addition, have been co-ordinating their actions with the Liberation Armed Forces' attacks on the nerve centres of the U.S. and its puppeds. The workers have taken part, in one way or another, in the aspect, in the part of the U.S. and the pupped of the U.S. and the U.S. a Da Nang, Bien Hoa and Can Tho, on the Long Binh military supply base,

I.I. these activities of the workers And labouring people were the forerunner of the violent revolutionary storm, the general offensive and widespread uprisings early this Spring which has been sweeping South Viet Nam.

They were in the first lines during They were in the first lines during the combats and uprisings in the streets. Their activities paved the way for the actions of the Liberation Armed Forces. Conceding this point, AP on Pebruary 6, 168 reported that workers at many factories on the outskirts of Saigon—Cho Lon had made all-sided preparations for the uprising and they themselves had formed many armed units and had formed many armed units and fought in the Saigon streets. The workers' living quarters such as the 5th, 6th, 7th and 8th districts of Saigon were 6th, 7th and 8th districts of Saigon were the scenes of the most violent uprisings. It was in those places that the gras-roots organizations of the people's revolutionary power were set up. In the city, thousands of workers and labouring people joined the revolutionary armed forces or helped the latter in the armed forces or helped the latter in the drawn-out fight in the old imperial citadel. A representative of the working people is in the People's Revolutionary Committee of Thua Thien — Hue.

Together with other sections of the urban population of South Viet Nam, the workers and labouring people have entered a new period of struggle, that of relentless offensive and widespread relentless offensive and widespread uprisings, in order to wrest back power to the people. Now as in the past, they are upholding the vanguard banner of the working class and there is no doubt that, shoulder to shoulder with the entire South Vietnamese people, they will con-tinue their triumphant march towards

## VIET NAM WORKING CLASS IN THE VAN OF ANTI-IMPERIALIST STRUGGLE

Oppressed peoples in Asia, Africa and Latin America have risen up in an ir-resistible drive and smashed by big chunks the abhorred colonial system. The definitive liquidation of colonialism old and new -- is the order of the

In the capitalist countries the move In the capitalist countries, the move-ment for peace, democracy and social progress is gaining momentum. It is imperative to point out the growing role of the U.S. working class and people in the struggle against American monopolies against the regime of exploitation and racial segregation represented by L.B. Johnson and his administration. and against Washington's war policy so detrimental to the interests and honour of the U.S.

The present international juncture The present international juncture is dominated by the fact that a world front of the forces of progress and peace has made its appearance and is fighting resolutely against the reactionary and bellicose forces, and its action hinges on the support given to the struggle waged by our people against U.S. imperialism and for national salvation.

THOUGH relatively young and small in number, the Vietnamese working class which has proved during four

the August 1945 revolution to success and founded the first people's democ-racy in South-East Asia. With the working class at their head our people put up against the French colonialists a protracted resistance war which ended by the Dien Bien Phu victory consider-ed by oppressed peoples all over the world to be theirs.

With the general attacks on urban centres and U.S. and puppets' bases, and the simultaneous uprisings of South Viet Nam urban and rural populations which have succeeded one another without let-up since the end of January this year our people's struggle against U.S. imperialism and for national salvation has taken a new turn, very hard and very complex but most prom-ising! The defeat of U.S. imperialism and the victory of our people are

foregone conclusions. In North Viet Nam, our working class and people have foiled in the main the objectives set by the U.S. rulers who have been wäging for four years now a naval and air war of destruction against the D.R.V.N. in order to stopour assistance to our compations in the South, to half our socialist construction in the North and to bomb our people and government into submission

Our working class and people have a firm confidence in victory. This stems from the traditions of our people who, in their multi-millenary history, have routed the most savage aggrestory, have routed the most savage aggres sors from the Gengis Khan hordes in th sors from the Gengis Khan hordes in the 13th century to the army of the Mikado in the 20th century. This derives from precious than independence and freedom." This springs from the rightcousness of our cause backed by the world's working class and peoples, including the American people, the recipients of the Chicago tradition with its historical First of May 1886.

are coming, to resume work when the

wartime, to improve the material and wartime, to improve the material and cultural life in war conditions, to "drown bomb explosion with one's singing" testifies to a grim resolve to create for oneself an intensely beautiful life, and also an unshakable confidence in the future, a future which is now being shaped by the Viet Nam working class for itself and for its entire people.

to their diktat. It never occurred to the men in the White House and Pen-

On May Day this year when our victory over U.S. imperialism is in sight, our working class and people are resolved to live up to the pledge taken in their name by our respected President Ho Chi Minh in his appeal of July 17, 1865: "For the defence of the Endependence of the Fatherland to the neological structure against 11.8. and for the fulliment of our obligation to the peoples struggling against U.S. imperialism, our people and army, united as one man, will resolutely fight till complete victory whatever the sacrifices and hardships may be."

## Kyoto University lecturer, married with many children, Doctor of Agronomics, Luong Dinh Cua could have spent quiet days in the

of turmoil. But he could not bear the idea of remaining butside the struggle waged by his country to wrest back independ-ence and freedom. So he left Japan in 1952 for the resistance bases in Viet Bac (mountain regions of North Viet Nam). But the hazard of the travel landed him in Saigon and only at the end of 1954 was he able to join the liberated areas.

The most precious thing he made a point of taking with him when stealing away from Saigon was a small brocade bag containing many varieties and hybrids of rice he had spent years to develop amony them a rice variety of rapid growth (95 days instead of a minimum of 120 days): the "Nong Nghiep I" which Luong Dinh Cua ucceeded in acclimatizing in Bac Bo (North Viet Nam) after his regroupment to the North. This rice variety has greatly contributed to the carrying out of an important directive of the Viet Nam Workers' Party and D.R.V.N. government, which was to develop agricultural production with various methods including the increase and rotation of crops. Other creations by Luong Dinh Cua (rice varieties 813, 828, 127, "Chiem Trang"... immune to a rice disease "yellow degeneracy," new

### cucumbers, dwarf sorghum, etc ... serve the same purpose, i.e. to develop agricultural production in order definitively to stamp out famine which was plaguing for thousands of years the overpopulated

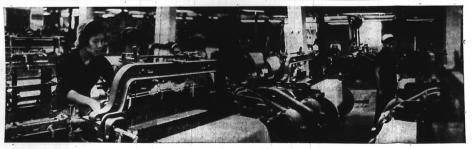
During the First Five-Year Plan (1061-1065) where stress was laid on the application of advanced farming technique Luong Dinh Cua was seen scouring the countryside to put his knowledge at the disposal of the local authorities. By studying the time-honoured experience of the peasants he improved scientific data. He then used the simplest words to popularize science among the masses. Of course, Luong Dinh Cua is not the only scientist who licks into shape " the methods of cultivation which make the 5 tons of paddy yield per hectare per year on large areas" and these methods could not be worked out without the help of millions and millions of peasants. But it is safe to say that Luong Dinh Cua has put his heart and soul in it. How much effort and patience it took to determine the process of production and technical basis for co-operatives, the organization of work at co-operative, village, district and province level! One of water lilies, summer should have other things in one's heart

### beside love of science to find, say, the best method to transplant rice seedlings. Luong Dinh Cua said, "I could hardly bear the sight of peasants bent under the weight of heavy bunches of rice plants or twisting their bodies each time they bury the roots of rice plants into the mud. I buckled down to observing their movements and devised new ones

I suggested that rice plants should be tied in small bundles so as to enable transplanters to keep the roots toward them and to press rice plants down into the earth with the fingers of the open hand without having to twist the body. By so doing, not only is the work less arduous and three or four times quicker but the rice plants strike their roots only superficially into the mud and can therefore grow easily and quickly. This is also the starting point of a new transplanting technique: in straight rows so as to make it possible to use weeders which can relieve and greatly speed up and improve weeding." In fact the innovation was not only one motivated by humanitarian considerations but also a scientific discovery in every sense of the word

Luong Dinh Cua is unassuming. He never speaks of himself and of his discoveries. He thinks that they are the work of a great many people. He adds that these discoveries would not have been possible had agricultural co-operatives not been brought to a high organizational level (socialist co-operatives). All that is true, but one should not forget that he was one who hit upon the ideas and thanks to these innovations the work of millions of farmers is lightened and more productive; and the objective set for agriculture to reap "5 tons of paddy per hectare per yea large areas" has been achieved. This is a distinguished contribution to the people's struggle for national independence, freedom and socialism

That is why this scientist who is frequently seen working in ricefields rather than in his laboratories, has been made a "Hero of Socialist Labour" and is well-known and loved by thousands of farmers, in the North and also in his native South Viet Nam where his " Nong Nghiep t" variety is called "Brother



A socialist labour team at the "March 8" Textile Mill

# VIET NAM AND THE WORLD AT LARGE

arrived at Hai Phong port on a warm Spring morning.
It was about five. Yet. It was about five. Yet, the harbour was already bustling with activity. Dozens of tractors pulling trailers loaded with goods scurried in all directions, driven by young women wearing blu young women wearing blue caps with squared "Star" badges — showing they were members of the city's self-defeace corps. At the pier, the freighters Hongqi 152 (China) and Isabel Eria (Britain) were unloading their cargoes.

PER VANGUARD, SAMPLE

### THE HEARTS OF VIETNAMESE DOCKEDS

N the drizzle, a woman work-O take a look at er, Nguyen Thi Du, told me, "In these days, the cargo discharged at our port consists chiefly of goods sent by foreign countries as aid to our people." Looking in the direction she showed me, I could still count a dozen or more ships, big and small, crowded together in a corner of the harbour waiting to be

Nguyen Thi Du, 25, was born and raised in this indusborn and raised in this indus-trious port. She herself has handled innumerable bales of goods presented by friends from various countries, as tokens of their deep friend-ship for the Vietnamese peo-ple who are resisting U.S. aggression. She has witnessed many moving meetings be-tween foreign sailors and Hai Phong dockers. In the past 3 and half years since the U.S. made its first air raids over North Viet Nam (Aug. 5, 1964) ships kept crossing oceans and calling at her beloved port by the hundred, by the thousand. She understands very well that part of the machines, the medicines, the the wheat flour and many other things the Viet namese people are using in their fight against the cruel U.S. aggressors is shipped in from abroad. Her native city from abroad. Her native city has been savagely ravaged by U.S. bombs and shells. The port is constantly under the threat of U.S. air raids or mine blockade. The U.S. imperialists have been, however,

Walking by my side, Du shook drops of rain off her two plaits of hair and whispered, "You see, the ships entering our port today are quite big! There is also the Soviet ship Soluestwogorsk with a cargo of goods presented by the French people." I nodded assent, appreciat-ing her intelligence. This woman worker remembers the Thie names of the ships as well as she remembers the fond memories of her young life.

GOODS CONSIGN-MENTS FULL OF DOOL ET ARIAN INTERNATIONALISM

the first consign presented to our people by the French communists people under Nam" campaign and brought here by the Soviet ship Solneshnogorsk, was an honour and of a

bonous and of a great interest for the six program and reference of the surprise of the surpri comrade Maurice Thorez handled the loading operation themselves. The most impressive moment came when, seeing the loading of the 520 tons of goods was nearing completion, dozens of families living in the neighbourhood of the port rushed in and insisted that the ship took in their additional gifts rang-ing from bicycles, clothes, and household goods to medicines. One person added the bicycle One person added the bicycle
he was riding to the cargo.
I thought of the slogan
"No day without doing
something to support Viet Nam!" put forward by the French Communist Party

APPEAL

For International Intellectuals'

Meeting on Viet Nam

"In appreciation as normal."

In expressing together the repulsion of their conscience the intellectuals make an irreplaceable contribution to the general movement to support Viet Nam. This urge of individual conscience is the origin even in the U.S., of the

action of those untelictuals two are against the war.

"The re-tailbilshment of peace depreds more than ever on the recognition of the right of the Vietnamese people to sal-determination. Talks can begin between Hanoi and Washington only if the bombing of North Viet Nam ends unconditionally. Peace cannot be restored without recognition of the leader of the resistance, the National Front for Literation, and without with the Medical Proposition of the leader of the resistance, the National Front for Literation, and without with the Gift of the Proposition of the National Front for Literation, and without with the Gift of the Proposition of the Propositi

tion, and without withdrawal of U.S. troops. There should be a relum to the spirit of the Geneva agreements.

"Prompted by the magnitude of the movement which rallies us today, we suggest that intellectuals from other countries conjugate their actions for the holding of an international meeting of intellectuals on Viet Nam.

"May intellectuals in the world raise their voices in unison and, supporting the Vielnamese people's struggle for liberation, victoriously take up the challenge to the values

ion of those intellectuals who are against the war.

Net Nam.

The appeal reads as follows:

On march 23, 1968 at a meeting held at the Porte de Versailles to support the Vietnamese people's legiti-mate struggle against the U.S. aggressors, the French intelligentain launched an appeal to intellectuals all over the world for an intellectuals' international meeting on Viet Nam. On March 23, 1968 at a meeting held at the Porte de

throughout the "a-ship-for-Viet Nam" campaign. This slogan had gone deep into the heart of every French workingman or woman and found clear expression in the words of the Party's Secretary General, Waldech Rochet, when he spoke in Le Havre, "The end of the 'a-ship-for-Viet Nam 'campaign does not mean the last of our efforts to show solidarity with the Vietnamese people. On the contrary, we shall step up our support for the struggle of the Vietnamese people."

I met Soviet officers and

scription. One of the Chinese seamen had worked for 3 years on end without bother-ing about leave. When the years on end without bother-ing about leave. When the skipper granted him leave to visit his family and have his wedding, he was adamant: 'Until the Vietnamese people defeat the U.S. aggressors 'I'll not leave the ship.' The skipper himself suffered from high-blood pressure. Yet he was always at his command post on every trip to Viet

The sweat and blood of officers and sailors on board Honggi 152 had been shed on our territorial waters: in a voyage to Viet Nam on Jan.

# **ENCOUNTERS** at Haiphong Port

Solneshnogorsk after the cer-emony of reception of the presents from the French peo-ple. Political commissar Ni-colas Kabanov, who had made three trips to Viet Nam aboard the same ship, told me that in August last year immediately when the Suez immediately when the Suez canal was blocked, his ship sailing out from Novorosisk on the Black Sea steamed round Africa in firm determiround Africa in firm determination to reach destination with 800 tons of goods sent by the Soviet people as aid to the fighting Vietnamese people. Not a few sailors had made the Viet Nam crossing many times. Yet they insisted

manes the New Action (1981) and (1981)

I went on board Hongqi 152—the freighter which ar-rived in Viet Nam immediately rived in Viet Nam immediately after the U.S. - concorted viet of U.S. - concorted viet of the Viet of effective support and assist-ance of our 700 million Chinese brothers. With mo-desty they said, "Like other peoples, the Chinese people are grateful to the Vietnamese people because you are fight-ing valiantly and stubbornly against U.S. imperialism, the common enemy of the whole of mankind." They refused to speak of their achievements speak of their achievements in their arduous missions to deliver goods on schedule, and more often than not, above plan. Nevertheless, I understood only too well that their service was beyond de-

23, 1968 they had 6 wounded in a valiant fight against U.S. aircraft.

SUPPORT VIET NAM-EVERY MAN'S DUTY T the Seamen Club in Hai Phong, I also met sailors from many other coun-tries—Japan, Britain, Greece, etc... Their understanding of Viet Nam was rather poor, but during their stay here, they came to understand this they came to understand this country better and better and they were aware that supporting Viet Nam is every man's duty. I had sit next to a crew member of the ship Tai-pieng (Britain) at the

Tai-pieng (Britain) a Municipal Theatre.

emotion, written by a Hong Kong seaman on board a ship flying the British flag. A few lines from the diary ran iew lines from the diary ran as follows: "Viet Nam is not big and her population is not big. Nevertheless her people's love of the

those seamen had been able to see for themselves. A Japanese sailor had this to say after visiting the bombed areas in Hai Phong, "U.S.

areas in Hai Phong, "U.S. savageries and brutalities against the Vietnamese people today are in no way different from those perpetrat-

ed against the Japanese peo-ple during the last years of World War II. The people of

Viet Nam and Japan now have a common enemy—U.S. imperialism. Let us unite, and

support and assist each other

in the struggle against our common enemy!"

LOOKING FORWARD

TO THE DAY OF SOUTH

VIET NAM'S COM-

DIETE LIBEDATION

PLETE LIBERATION

A This same club, a
Polish seaman, with
great pleasure, showed
me some attractive Viet
Nam handiworks which he
had just bought for his
finncie at home. Asked to
give his last impressions
combattled Viet Nam, he said,
"Full confidence in the final
victory of the Vietnames

victory of the Vietnamese people! Your victories this spring have strengthened our confidence. You will win!

Polish seamen will do every-

Polish seamen will do every-thing they can to support you. We hope in the foreseeable future our ship will call at Saigon port of completely liberated South Vict Nam." I had also read the diary, full of cheerfulness and



French people's gifts handed to Vietnamese representatives at Hai Phong

performed the ballet A Mother of South Viet Nam—an indictment of US. atrocities in the Southern part of our country. When the show brought the spectators' anger to a climax with the scene of § Yankees with the scene of § Yankees of the US of the Southern alive in the hope of forcine her to show them the forcing her to show them the way, I could read his anger on the face of the Tai-pieng seamen. After the performance, he held my hand and said, "I've seen the truth!

The U.S. imperialists are security the compilities. committing an aggression against Viet Nam. Indeed, the Vietnamese have no other choice than to rise up in arms to wipe out the aggressors for self-liberation!"

U.S. crimes on a theatrical stage can by no means be compared with the actual crimes the aggressors had perpetrated at this port and

are like the rolling Pacific.

I like them because they are hospitable and friendly to foreign visitors."

The feelings of the Polish friend and the Hong Kong seaman were also shared by seaman were also snared by many other seamen I had the chance to meet. I felt deeply that the just struggle of our people against U.S. aggression for national salvaaggression for national salva-tion had the backing and was assisted by co-ordinated actions of hundreds of mil-

are like the rolling Pacific.

lions of people in the world.

Keeping in their minds this devoted assistance and these devoted assistance and these inspiring words, the Viet-namese people will stiffen their resolve and step up their sacred struggle until final victory, which will be their positive contribution to the stienal liberation movement national liberation movement and the defence of world peace

# WORLD PUBLIC OPINION FLAYS U.S. LACK OF GOOD-WILL

THE Chairman of the Council of Minister of the U.S.S.R., Alexei Kosygin, has declared at a reception given in his honour in Rawalpindi by Pakistani President Ayub Khan that "The Soviet Government holds that the U.S. must accept the D.R.V.N. Government's proposals so that contacts might begin soon."

He stressed that total ces-sation of the bombing and all other acts of war against the D.R.V.N. must be the first prerequisite, the minimum that people are demanding and that must be met.

NICOLAS CEAUCESCU. NICOLAS CEAUCESCU, Secretary-General of the C.C. of the Rumanian Com-munist Party, President of the Council of State of the Rumanian Socialist Republic has affirmed that Rumania acclaims and supports the

recent statement of the D. R. V. N. government concerning contacts with the U.S. representative with a view to the permanent ending of the bombing and all other acts of war against the D.R.V.N.

SPEAKING at a meeting held on April 19, 1968 at Giron Beach to mark the 7th Giron Beach to mark the 7th anniversary of the Giron victory, Fidel Castro, First Secretary of the Guban Communist Party, Premier of the Cuban Revolutionary Government, has said that Johnson's March 3t speech on the "Himited bombing" of North Viet Nam sprung from the bitter defeats inflicted by the Users on the Vietnamese people on the American aggressors. He ex pressed "unqualified confi dence in the policy, strategy and decisions of the Party, Government, Front and peo-ple of Viet Nam."

O<sup>N</sup> April 19, 1968, the Foreign Ministry of the Democratic People's Republic of Kores has reiterated that the Government and people of Korea fully support the sound position of the of Korea fully support the sound position of the D.R.V.N. Government as made clear in its April 3 statement and in the April 13 statement of the D.R.V.N.

Foreign Ministry. The Korean Government demands that the U.S. aggresdemands that the U.S. aggressors unconditionally and per-manently stop all bombings and other acts of war against the D.R.V.N., completely and immediately pull their aggressive armed forces and those of their satellites out of South Viet Nam.

A statement on April 21 of the Royal Government of Cambodia flays the lack of good-will on the part of the U.S. government which has given filmsy reasons to successively reject Phnom Penh and Warsaw as sites for preliminary contacts between the D.R.V.N. and the U.S.

The Cambodian government underlined U.S. scornful atti-tude towards Cambodia implied in its dismissal of Phnom Penh as a site for contacts on

The statement also denounces the new U.S. proposals as propaganda "manoeuvres.

ACCORDING to reports from Paris, on April 10, the French Foreign Ministry spokesman, expressing his satisfaction at the April 3 statement of the D.R.V.N. statement of the D.R.V.N.
government, said he hoped
that Vietnamese attitude concerning preliminary contacts
between the D.R.V.N. and
the U.S.A. would open up the
possibility for forthcoming
talks and lead to the complete
and unconditional halt of the bombing.

ACCORDING to the paper Akahata, Kenji Miyamoto, Secretary-General of the C.C. of the Japanese Communist

Party, has demanded that the U.S. stop the bombing of the D.R.V.N. completely and call-ed on the Japanese people to give a strong impulse to actions in support of the Vietnamese people. He has also stressed U.S. lack of

IN its April 19 statement, the Secretariat of the W-F.U. pointed out that "although the U.S. has announced its 'limited bombing' of North Viet Nam and stated that its representatives are ready to meet D.R.V.N. representatives anywhere and at any time it continues its at any time it continues its intense bombing of a considerable part of D.R.V.N. territory, increased its military activities in South Viet Nam. and resorted to various manoeuvres to reject the D.R.V.N. proposals which are full of good will. It is becomincreasingly clear that words, belied by its deeds, are only a manoeuvre designed to mislead world opinion."

# Battle on the Long Tau River

(Continued from page 8)

send up all night long flares to light up the region within a radius of several kilometres. A costly and quite useless job, for it can in no way help them detect the "Viet Cong' who lies in wait. Worse still they only play into his hand, for the glare they produce make them sitting ducks. It is not rare that a shot at the enemy ship provokes an alert and sets everyone astir. Then bullets and shells are poured on everything while the enemy gets hurriedly into stifling holds not daring to go up to the deck for a breath of fresh air. To parry the blows of the P.I. A.F. the aggressors set up at Nha Be, a dozen kilometres below Saigon, a big river base having about one hundred war craft to launch in the day as well as in the night "mopping-up" operations chiefly against Rung Sat. But life and the struggle go on in the region. The P.L.A.F. fighters make saltish water of the arroyos drinkable by distillation; the waterways give them plenty of fish and shrimps to eat and their small husking machines operate day and night to subbly them with rice.

Each has his work to do but all will be ready at their lighting posts as soon as the enemy comes; and everyone can become a " valiant fighter against the Yankees."

The main thing is however not to wait for the Yankees to come to kill them, but to take the initiative and launch attacks wherever the enemy is. And attacks are in fact frequent on the Long Tau river. Here is one of the battles reported by Giai Phong Press

were sunk in that period.

SURELY Ky does not mince matters. In an interview given a West-German paper and quoted by AP in March 31, 1968, he declared; "We need a revolution. The Americans are in Viet Nam to defend their interests which do not One day the internal roar of aircraft was heard in the sky while from the Long Tau river came the siren buzz of enemy ships. In a safe spoi always tally with Viet Nam's. at Rung Sat, a stalwart young At the start they were our advisers, they said their ideal is to help us. Then, fighter drew a map from his pocket, spread it on the table gradually, they took hold of South Viet Nam to make it a colony..." and looked intently at it. An old guerilla, a "white-haired lighter," as he was usually Dealing with the "free" elections that, if Washington is to be believed, have given South Viet Nam a legal and called, drew near, gazed at the

young A-A gunners will take care of enemy planes." They parted. Soon the erackling of firearms of various calibers was heard. And the observation bost announced. A high column of smoke rises from the river. Choppers come, followed by jets, but they do not dare come near... Seven choppers, three jets, they make wide circles in the sky... Our A-A batteries go into action.

map and pointing at it, he

said to the youngster in a decided tone, "We guerillas

shall presently strike at the

enemy in this spot, shan't we? We shall strike, no mat-

ter what kind of ship and

whatever their strength. The

A few minutes later, the same voice resumed, "Three vessels have been hit and sent to the bottom, two others have turned tail. A copter has been downed, two others fly away." Thus the engagements on

the Long Tau river at Rung Sat begin quickly and end quickly. And the results are enlightening. Over these last few years, a dozen ships - to mention only those from 5,000 to 11.000 tons - have cone to the bottom in Long Tau. And here, during the Winter 1966-Spring 1967 campaign, nearly one third of U.S. ships destroyed in South Viet Nam

South Viet Nam's legal and representative government, the vice-president of the so-called Republic of Viet Nam aided, "These elections cause us to lose much time and money. They aim at installing a regime alien to return the blow. The AFP Washington correspondent says that U.S. the masses, a useless and corrupt one." So Ky's view corrupt one." So Ky's view is a very far cry from Washington approach. Ky's boss, Lyndon B. Johnson, likes to reassert again and again that the presence of the U.S. in Viet Nam springs from Laos. from the need to live up to Every one knows that on

"solemn commitments"
taken and renewed by three
successive American presidents to help the Vietnamese
people fight off aggression
from a neighbouring country.

That a house servant indulge in such language liberties is very significant: Once Ky was hugged by the U.S. President in Ho-nolulu. In Manila in 1966, he was welcomed with due he was welcomed with due honours and praised as Saigon's "first political figure." Washington then heavily staked on the wouldbe dictator to put order in the garbage bin that the Saigon "government" was, and to increase its effec-

solemn

But the honey moon was of short duration.

Towards September 1967, Ky was forced out of the race to the "Presidency of the Republic" and to content himself instead with being himself instead with being Thieu's running mate. That

## NGUYEN CAO KY AND WASHINGTON **EXCHANGE NICETIES**

was not all. Ever since he has had to helplessly witness the departure of reliable placemen he had put in office in his days' He enrages at seeing his star on the want

Y'S outburst did not affect his American masters very much.
The C.I.A. knew how to

correspondent says that U.S. secret services have all services have all services to Congress. Six years ago, when entrusted with the when entrusted with the oversceing of the dropping of sabstage commandos over North Viet Nam, Ky took advantage of the opportunity to smuggle opium aboard American planes to Saigon from Local

each of the White House's agents, from the "President of the Republic" down to the humble village cop, the C.I.A. keeps a fat file. All of the unpalatable facts connected with him are carefully recorded: miscarefully recorded: mis appropriation of public funds smuggling of narcotics and so on and so forth. A mass of evidence that the Amer-ican secret services will not hesitate to use in a masterly manner for black mailing purposes.

In uncovering a secret withheld for over a lustrum, they are undoubtedly pre-paring a nasty trick at Ky's

This exchange of niceties This exchange of niceties lay bare the conflicts which split the whole gang at a time when defeat looms large in the distance. It speaks volumes of the moral stan-dards of the Establishment.



- Sir here I am in full bit!

> Puchalaki (Szpilki, Poland)

VIET NAM COURIER

of man's culture!

## ON THE LARGE SOUTHERN FRONT

## P.L.A.F. Keep Initiative and Attack the Enemy in All Theatres of Operation

KHE SANH Sector : Nearly 1,000 GI's Killed or Wounded in a Week (April 17-23)

N the Khe Sanh sector, the P.L.A.F. continue to inflict serious losses on the U.S.-puppet tapops.

on Aprill 77, several enemy positions were attacked and throughout the day the P.L.A.F. killed or wounded more than 150 G.L's, destroyed or shot down 5 helicopters, and burnt a fuel dump. The U.S. Command

dump. The U.S. Command had to evacuate 3 positions. The next day, some roo other G.I.'s were killed or wounded in several battles.

ril 19 witnessed an sh laid by the latter on ambissh laid by the latter on thighway No. 9, east of Khe Sanh. The U.S. supply convoy lost 90 men killed or wounded. A U.S. battalion C.P. was shelled at Bong Kho (8 km east of Ta Con) as well as thuc Thuong position (2 km southeast of Huong Hoa) where the enemy later had to send in 6 helicopters to remove the dead and wounded. The shelling on April 20 cost the Americans some one hundred killed or wounded. Trushing to Khe Sanh were intercepted by the P.L.A.F.: 108 G.L.1s were and the property of the property The shelling on April 20 cost

Thus, between April 17 and 3, the enemy lost nearly

Southwest of HUE: 41 Copters Downed in 3 Straight Days, 34 of Them on April 19

AVALRYMEN " of the U.S. First Air Mobile Division recently launched an operation in the direction of the mountain region of Thua Thien province, southwest of Hue, in the provincial route No 12 area. The operation has proved very costly for the Americans.

Americans.

On April 19, a large number of helicopters landed G.L's at several points in this region. In the morning, in the very first wave, the P.L.A.F. brought down 9 choppers. At another point, another P.L.A.F. unit cut down 9 more. Throughout the day the successive attacks against this air fleet heads. the day the successive attacks against this air fleet bagged 16 more U.S. choppers, bringing a total of 34, a record number of copters

grounded in a single day in South Viet Nam. 300 "caval" rymen" were killed or were ounded.

wounded.

Next day, paratroops were dispatched to the rescue of "cavalrymen." They suffered 130 killed or wounded and 5 copters brought down. On April 21, the survivors were assaulted and about 100 of them put out of actien.

On April 23, 150 G.I.'s were killed or wounded and cannons destroyed west of loute No 12.

Thus, between April 19 and 23, U.S. cavalrymen and paratroops listed more than 650 casualties, and 4r choppers knocked down in 3 days. The P.L.A.F. command has launched an emulation campaign among the P.L.A.F. to follow the example of Thua Thien combattants in the hunt for

SAIGON Area : A Battalion and 2 Companies of the PuppetArmy Completely Wiped Out, 100 G.I.'s Killed or Wounded, 9 War Vessels and Combat Launches Sunk or Damaged between Saigon and the Sea.

In the Saigon area, sharp fighting took place in the neighbourhood of Tan Uyen, a dozen kilometres North of the big U.S. Bien Hoab base. On April 14, at Xom Chua (4km southwest of Tan Uyen) a pupper battalion was completely wiped out, losing 500 men killed or losing 500 men killed or was completely wiped out, losing 500 men killed or wounded. Two days later, 2 puppet companies suffered the same fate 7km northeast of Tan Uyen, and the casual-ly list included a puppet ma-jor and a U.S. captain. Next day, it was the turn of a jor and a c.c. day, it was the day, it was the turn of a puppet platoon and, in 3 other places, the guerillas put 105 enemy troops out of action, and brought down 2 heli-

Some 50km north of Saigon, on April 19, the P.L.A.F. intercepted a U.S. battalion at Ba Tao and pounded the U.S. base at Phuoc Vinh. Four assaults of this U.S. battalion assauts of this U.S. battaion were repulsed and the Amer-icans lost about 100 killed or wounded. At Phuoc Vinh, 3 helicopters and a fuel dump were set on fire and 20 Yan-kees put out of action.

Between Saigon and the sea, several successful attacks of the PLLAE, against US. The sea of the PLAE, against US. The sea of the PLAE, against US. The sea of the PLAE, against US. The sea of the place of the sea of the s

Major combats took place on April 20 in 3 places situat-

ed near Ben Luc southwest of Saigon. Three puppet battal-ions caught in ambushes left nearly 200 killed or wounded on the battlefield while 2 helicopters were grounded.

helicopters were grounded.

On April 18 and 19 again in a place close to Ben Luc, the guerillas killed or wounded some 100 enemy including a captain and a second-lieutenant of the puppet army, and shot down 4 helicopters, two of them grounded by a peasant with a carbine.

Lattle the The Day of 6

Lastly, the Thu Duc officers' training school, 12km northeast of Saigon, was vio-lently plastered on April 17-AFP reported that hundreds of shells landed into the premises of the school.

ENTION should also be made of 3 major battles fought in the Mekong Delta by the P.L.A.F.

On April 16 in the southern-most part of the country, the Nam Can military sub-sector was overrun and the area occu-pied by the enemy for more than 10 years was liberated. The people's forces seized an important booty including 4 vessels and more than 100,000 rounds of amunifion. rounds of ammunition.

On the same day, two pup-pet companies were put out of action 11km southeast of Can Tho.

On April 29, in the Plain of Reeds, 70 km west of Saigon, a puppet Ranger company lost 80 men killed or wounded.

## CONGRESS

## OF ALLIANCE OF FORCES FOR NATIONAL INDEPENDENCE. DEMOCRACY AND PEACE

THE Alliance of Forces for National Independence, Democracy and Peace held on April 20 and 21, 1968 its congress in a locality near Saigon-Cho Lon, Giai Phong Press Agency of Saigon-Gia Dinh sector reported.

The congress was attended by many personalities well known in South Viet Nam, intellectuals, professors, students, writers, journalists, industrialists, traders, employees of private enterprises, civil servants and army officers of the puppet regime. They represented various strata and tendencies, political organizations, religious sects and parties now active in South Viet Nam's towns and

In the name of the Prepar-

Committee for the atory founding of the Alliance, Lawyer Trinh Dinh Thao delivered the opening speech.

After spirited debates, the delegates unanimously passed the manifesto for national salvation and programme of action of the Alliance. They also unanimously elected the Alliance Central Committee with Lawyer Trinh Dinh Thao as Chairman, and Mr. Lam Van Tet, an engineer and landowner, and Reverend Thich Don Hau, as vice chairmen.

Messages and telegrams of congratulations from various sections of the people, in particular the message from the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation, filled the audience with elation and enthusiasm.

# Battle on the LONG TAU River



ONG TAU is unquestionably the most important waterway for the Americans in South Viet Nam. It links Saigon to the sea and through it come 80 per cent of the enemy's arm, ammition and food supplies.

For the same reason Long For the same reason Long Tau is also unquestionably the most dangerous waterway for the aggressors. For each ton of military goods shipped to Saigon, they have had to pay dear in money and blood.

pay daes in money and blood.

Emeny convoys must often
fire on both banks of Long
Tau or at the unterways and
canals which empty into it,
in order to "heep in aue the
freal or imaginary! Viet
Cong," for many a time they
have been attached and at any
times the Pople's Liberation
come from where shouly to accome
the many and the should be to the
When a ship of an important
tomage sails through Long
Tau, it must always be score. Tau, it must always be escort. ed by minesweepers of Seventh Fleet.

Navigation on the Long Tau Navigation on the Long Tau river is all the more danger-ous for the enemy, chiefly because the virgin jungle of Rung Sat along its banks is Rung Sat along its banks is criss-crossed with arroyos which are an ideal base for the P.L.A.F. to attack Amer-ican convoys. For their night traffic, the aggressors thus lake it into their heads to

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